

Champion, who also is a drummer and vocalist for a band called The Vetivers, attributed his success to having a supportive family, encouraging professors, a solid education from the Olathe school district and 12 years of experience in the Boy Scouts, which resulted in his achievement of Eagle Scout status. Champion also has won the Udall Scholarship for environmental studies and was a finalist for the Truman Scholarship.

Champion's father, Mike, credits his son's success to his positive, focused mind-set, his strong work ethic and his ability to adapt to any situation he's in. "I'm about as excited as a dad can get," he said. "It's one of those things where you pinch yourself to make sure you're awake and not dreaming."

WELCOMING ROTARY INTER-
NATIONAL PRESIDENT BHICHAIRATTAKUL

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an event that took place in my district yesterday, and to welcome the Rotary International President Bhichai Rattakul to Jacksonville and the United States.

The Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville are dedicated and respected members of the large international humanitarian service organization. The Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville are comprised of business and professional leaders who practice ethical standards in relationships in the community.

The many members of the Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville dedicate their time, skills, expertise and other resources to help improve the lives of others in developing countries by supporting the Rotary Foundation and by working to eradicate polio worldwide; and consistently promote truth, fairness, and try to improve relations among the citizens of northeast Florida.

The Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville provide friendship and fellowship to its members and visiting Rotarians. These dedicated men and women are some of the most active local citizens who motivate and influence community leaders through their efforts on a regular basis. But more importantly, the members of the Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville are citizens of the World who live each day with the goal of "Service Above Self."

It was an honor for me to join the fine men and women of the Rotary Clubs of Greater Jacksonville on January 6, 2003, to welcome Rotary International President Bhichai Rattakul and thank him for his many efforts and his service on behalf of all Rotarians in Jacksonville, the Nation, and the World.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA C. MYERS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on December 30, 2002, Dr. Martha C. Myers died doing what she loved—helping and healing people as a missionary in Yemen.

Her death last Monday was the result of an Islamic extremist who smuggled a gun into her

hospital and opened fire. The gunman killed not only Dr. Myers but also two of her American colleagues and seriously wounded another. This act of senseless brutality against those devoted to goodness reminds us just how dangerous the world is even for those doing God's work.

Dr. Myers, a Jefferson County native, grew up in Montgomery wanting nothing more in life than to be a missionary. The daughter of Dr. Ira and Dorothy Myers, Martha Myers graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in 1963, and after completing her medical degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, committed to missionary life and doing what she believed God wanted her to do.

In 1977 she was assigned to Yemen as a missionary for the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, working in the 80-bed hospital which treated more than 40,000 patients a year. Dr. Myers' medical career spanned 25 years as an obstetrician and surgeon, saving lives and giving hope.

Her brother Stephen said Martha gave away most of her small medical salary to others she felt more in need. She even recently divested her savings account to help pay the cost of a kidney transplant for one of the hospital patients.

Dr. Myers was a model citizen, a committed Christian, a shining example for us all.

President Bush has promised to bring to justice those responsible for the slayings. I join the President and my fellow citizens in strongly condemning this brutal act of murder and will work to ensure the United States Government and Yemeni officials work together to investigate the causes of this attack. We can not and should not tolerate the merciless killings of innocent Americans working and living abroad.

Let us send our condolences to the family of Dr. Martha Myers and our prayers that their grief may be soothed. But most importantly, let us keep the memory of Dr. Myers alive so her mission may not die in vain, but serve as a shining example for future American missionaries working to spread peace and hope throughout the world.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO MRS. HELEN DOBSON

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, Mrs. Helen Dobson, who passed away on December 8, 2002.

Helen will be missed by all of us, but her memories will last forever in our hearts. She was a beautiful flower whose fragrance permeated her surroundings. Her songbird voice soothed the souls of many and brought joy to our hearts. Helen's untiring efforts on behalf of our community never went unnoticed, as she gave unselfishly of herself to meet the needs of others time and time again.

One of my fondest of many memories, is when Helen surprised me by singing "Happy Birthday" and inviting the congregation to join in, during a Sunrise Prayer Service at Central Baptist Church, in conjunction with a visit to my hometown of Beckley, West Virginia, by former U. S. Secretary of Transportation, Rod-

ney E. Slater. Secretary Slater was in awe of Helen's beautiful voice, as she sang her favorite song, "If I Can Help Somebody, Then My Living Shall Not Be In Vain."

I will never forget Helen's efforts on my behalf and the support she gave me throughout the years. I pray that Helen's memories will live forever in our hearts. It is for certain that, "Helen's Living Shall Not Be In Vain" and the West Virginia Hills are alive with the sound of her music.

U.S. EMPLOYEE, FAMILY UNITY AND LEGALIZATION ACT

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 7, 2003

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill, the "U.S. Employee, Family Unity and Legalization Act" or the "U.S.E.F.U.L. Act."

I am very pleased to reintroduce legislation that reflects the global reality of our economy and the migratory nature of the labor market. Today, more than ever, immigrants play a critical role in our country's well-being and competently fill voids in our workforce and add strength and stability to our society.

My bill will help many immigrants realize their potential and our Nation's promise. Tax payers, home and business owners, parents and grandparents, neighbors and friends will no longer be forced to hide in the shadows of a country with a broken immigration system.

The USEFUL Act will enable immigrants now in the country to become eligible for permanent residency if they have lived in the U.S. for at least 5 years, regardless of their current immigration status. My bill calls for an immediate revision of the "date of registry", a provision in current immigration law that allows people to apply for permanent resident status if they had entered the United States by a specific date.

Updating the registry date has been a sensible practice of our nation's immigration policy since 1929, yet Congress has allowed the registry date to remain set at January 1, 1972. As a result, the historic and fair recognition of valuable contributions of long-term, law-abiding, tax-paying residents of the United States has been undermined.

The 1972 registry date has essentially become obsolete. My bill would immediately update the registry date to January 1, 1998, thus granting legal status to any immigrant who can establish that he or she was living in the United States by that time. The registry date would then roll forward by one year at a time every subsequent year until 2009. Thus, my bill would eventually grant permanent residency to every immigrant who entered the United States by January 1, 2003.

Some people might say that this legislation is bold, ambitious, and faces an uphill battle. I agree.

This bill is all of those things, but it is also legislation that is sound, sensible, and will ultimately be successful. My proposal will not only benefit deserving immigrants who have adopted the United States as their home, but all people who rely on safe communities and a sound and sustainable economy.

Immigrants are vital to the health and strength of a number of economic sectors,